

## Message Text

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42

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CPR-02 PM-07

NSC-10 OPR-02 PA-04 RSC-01 SS-20 SY-10 PRS-01 A-01

UOSS-00 SCS-03 DRC-01 SCA-01 /078 W

----- 116749

O R 160030Z OCT 73

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1819

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y ( F O R T E X T )

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, AS (REAGAN, RONALD)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF GOVERNOR REAGAN OF CALIFORNIA TO MELBOURNE.

REF: STATE 202022

1. APPRECIATE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REFTEL, BUT REGRET ANSWERS RAISE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS WHICH REQUIRE IMMEDIATE CLARIFICATION. VICTORIA RED CROSS AND PREMIER'S OFFICE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S STRESSING TO DEEVER NEED TO GIVE URGENT ATTENTION TO RESOLUTION OF FOLLOWING PROBLEMS (WE SUGGESTING TO VICTORIANS THAT THEY ALSO TELEPHONE DEEVER ON THESE POINTS):

A) SINCE PREMIER HAMER OF VICTORIA EXTENDED WRITTEN INVITATION IN AUGUST TO GOV AND MRS. REAGAN TO BE GUESTS OF THE STATE IN SUPPORT OF THE RED CROSS APPEAL, PROTOCOL OFFICE HERE EXPECTS WRITTEN REPLY FROM GOV REAGAN ACCEPTING SAME. PAR 2(A) OF REFTEL USES "WOULD ACCEPT" LEAVING INFERENCE INVITATION FROM PREMIER HAMER NOT YET RECEIVED.

B) STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT GOV REAGAN AND PARTY ACCEPT GOV OF VICTORIA'S INVITATION TO STAY AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE SINCE IT WOULD  
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ENHANCE US-AUSTRALIAN RELATIONS. AVERAGE VICTORIAN HAS GREAT DEAL

OF RESPECT AND AN AFFECTION FOR THE GOV, MAJ GEN SIR ROHAN DELACOMBE, AND SINCE HE IS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE QUEEN, THIS EXTENSION OF VICE REGAL COURTESIES WILL BE MOST IMPRESSIVE TO LOCAL POPULATION. GOV DELACOMBE HAS POSTPONED BY ONE DAY HIS PREVIOUSLY ARRANGED DEPARTURE ON A COUNTRY TOUR IN ORDER TO WELCOME THE REAGANS. ASSURE REAGANS AND PARTY THEY WILL NOT BE CAUGHT UP IN PROTOCOL; THERE WILL BE NO RESTRICTION ON THEIR MOVEMENTS; AND THEY WILL BE COMPLETELY FREE TO FOLLOW RED CROSS PROGRAM. VICTORIA'S GOVERNMENT HOUSE IS AN UNUSUALLY HANDSOME AND IMPRESSIVE MANSION, CENTRALLY LOCATED, SET IN A BEAUTIFUL PARK AND THE EXPERIENCE ALONE SHOULD BE REWARDING. IF GOV REAGAN MAKES TRIP AS PERSONAL ENVOY OF PRESIDENT, IT WILL BE EVEN MORE ADVANTAGEOUS FOR HIM TO STAY AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

C) PROGRAM IN GODDARD'S LETTER OF SEPT 14, WRITTEN TO DEEVER AFTER GODDARD'S PHONE CONVERSATION WITH HIM, (PURSUANT TO GODDARD'S AUGUST AND JUNE EXCHANGES WITH DEEVER), CLEARLY INDICATES GOV REAGAN IS SCHEDULED TO SPEAK ON HIS FIRST NIGHT. WE UNDERSTAND THIS PARTICULAR BANQUET AND SPEECH IS THE KEYNOTE OF ENTIRE RED CROSS FUND RAISING DRIVE AND FOR WHICH RED CROSS HERE INVITED GOV REAGAN. THEY NEED CONFIRMATION THAT TOPIC SUGGESTED FOR SPEECH IN GODDARD'S LETTER HAS GOVERNOR'S APPROVAL. GODDARD WOULD HOPE GOV CAN MEET PROPOSED PROGRAM.

D) ALL PREVIOUS CORRESPONDENCE TO GOV REAGAN AND DEEVER FROM VICTORIA RED CROSS STATED PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF INVITATION WAS FOR THE GOV TO SUPPORT THE 1973/74 VICTORIA FUND RAISING APPEAL. GOV REAGAN IS KEY FIGURE IN CAMPAIGN AND RED CROSS OFFICIALS FEEL THEY MUST MAKE WIDEST PUBLICITY IN ORDER TO SELL TICKETS TO THE VARIOUS AFFAIRS PROGRAMMED TO RAISE THESE FUNDS. THEY FEAR NO MENTION OF REAGAN'S PARTICIPATION UNTIL MID-NOVEMBER WOULD DEFEAT WHOLE PURPOSE OF INVITATION (REFTEL PARA 2(D)). RED CROSS CONCERNED NOT ONLY THAT PRESS RELEASE BE MADE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT DEFINITIVE ANSWERS TO ABOVE REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY SO THAT RED CROSS OFFICIALS MAY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FINALIZE PROGRAM, PRINT TICKETS, ARRANGE PUBLICITY, INVITE PROPER SUPPORTING GUESTS TO SHARE PODIUM AND TAKE CARE OF INNUMERABLE OTHER DETAILS INVOLVED IN FUND RAISING CAMPAIGNS OF THIS TYPE.

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NSC-10 OPR-02 PA-04 RSC-01 SS-20 SY-10 PRS-01 A-01

UOSS-00 SCS-03 DRC-01 /077 W  
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2. SUGGEST THAT, IF GOV REAGAN IS DESIGNATED PERSONAL ENVOY OF PRESIDENT, NO NEED TO ALTER PROGRAM AS IT CONCERNS VICTORIA. IT COULD SEEM UNFAIR TO HAVE ACCEPTED VICTORIAN PREMIER'S AND RED CROSS SOCIETY'S INVITATION TO VISIT THE STATE, ALLOW THEM TO BEAR COSTS INVOLVED AND THEN REARRANGE THEIR PROGRAM IN ORDER TO FACILITATE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT CONTACTS IN CANBERRA. VICTORIA OFFICIALS HAVE OBSERVED ANY CANBERRA PROGRAMMING DUE TO PERSONAL ENVOY STATUS WOULD HAVE TO TAKE PLACE EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER VICTORIAN SEGMENT WHICH IS THE RAISON D'ETRE FOR BRINGING GOV REAGAN TO AUSTRALIA IN THE FIRST PLACE.

3. SINCE SO MUCH TIME HAS ELAPSED WITHOUT GOV REAGAN'S OFFICE PROVIDING DETAILS REQUESTED BY RED CROSS, PREMIER AND GOVERNMENT HOUSE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S DRAWING DEEVER'S URGENT ATTENTION TO RESOLVING ABOVE QUESTIONS AND CONTACTING GODDARD IF LATTER HAS NOT TELEPHONED HIM. FLUKER

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